

## Message Text

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ORIGIN OES-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-07 ISO-00 ERDA-05 EB-08 SIG-01 FEA-01  
AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 FPC-01 H-01  
INR-07 INT-05 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 OMB-01 PM-04  
USIA-06 SP-02 SS-15 STR-04 TRSE-00 ACDA-07 DLOS-06  
SAL-01 NRC-05 /120 R

DRAFTED BY OES/NET/IM:MPROCHNIK  
APPROVED BY OES/NET/IM:MPROCHNIK  
ERDA/IAI - J VANDERRYN  
EUR/RPE - A SENS  
EB/ORF/FSE - B RAMSAY  
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P 102013Z MAR 77  
FM SECSTATE WASHDC  
TO AMEMBASSY ANKARA PRIORITY  
AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON PRIORITY  
USMISSION OECD PARIS PRIORITY  
AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY  
AMEMBASSY ROME PRIORITY  
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS PRIORITY  
AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE PRIORITY  
AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG PRIORITY  
AMEMBASSY DUBLIN PRIORITY  
AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN PRIORITY  
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AMEMBASSY OTTAWA PRIORITY  
AMEMBASSY OSLO PRIORITY  
AMEMBASSY BERN PRIORITY  
AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM PRIORITY  
AMEMBASSY VIENNA PRIORITY  
AMEMBASSY MADRID PRIORITY  
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USMISSION EC BRUSSELS PRIORITY

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E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: TECH, ENGR, IEA

SUBJECT: MEETING OF IEA COMMITTEE ON ENERGY R&D,  
24 FEBRUARY 1977

1. COMMITTEE MET UNDER CHAIRMANSHIP SCHMIDT-KUESTER (FRG). LEGASSIE (U.S.) CHAIRMAN OF STEERING GROUP ON ENERGY R&D STRATEGY PRESENTED PHASE I REPORT OF GROUP WHICH REPRESENTED EFFORT TO SCOPE PROBLEM, PERFORM INITIAL ANALYSES AND SUGGEST APPROACHES TO STRATEGY DEVELOPMENT. ANALYSES BASED ON NATIONAL DATA SUBMISSIONS AND OUTPUT OF TWO SYSTEMS TEAMS, WORKING IN PARALLEL AT BROOKHAVEN NATIONAL LABORATORY AND JULICH, GERMANY. 13 OF 19 IEA MEMBER COUNTRIES AND EEC PARTICIPATED. A SECOND PHASE WILL PURSUE EFFORT IN GREATER DETAIL AND SCOPE AND WILL INCLUDE FULL COVERAGE ALL IEA COUNTRIES.

2. REPORT UNDERScoreD FUTURE DIFFERENCES BETWEEN ENERGY SUPPLY AND ECONOMIC GROWTH EXPECTATION OF IEA GROUP. WITHOUT VIGOROUS INTRODUCTION OF NEW AND CONSERVATION TECHNOLOGIES, DEFICIT BETWEEN PROJECTED ENERGY DEMAND AND SUPPLY CONSIDERED TO BE OF 'OMINOUS" MAGNITUDE. CONVENTIONAL INDIGENOUS SUPPLY CAPABILITIES OF IEA COUNTRIES APPEAR TO BE INADEQUATE TO OVERCOME IMPENDING DEFICITS. BALANCING ENERGY

BUDGETS THROUGH INCREASED IMPORTS OF CONVENTIONAL FUELS WOULD REQUIRE APPARENTLY UNREALISTIC IMPORT LEVELS RELATIVE TO ANTICIPATED WORLD PRODUCTION RATES AND KNOWN RESOURCES. MAJOR COUNTRIES MUST ALSO CONSIDER POSSIBILITY OF SHIFT OF DEMAND DOMINANCE TO MUCH WIDER GROUPING OF COUNTRIES. REPORT QUESTIONS WHETHER IEA MEMBER COUNTRIES LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
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(AND WORLD) DEMAND FOR OIL IN NEXT 25 YEARS IS IN FACT PRODUCABLE AT REASONABLE COSTS AND THEREFORE AVAILABLE TO MEET ENERGY NEEDS AS PROJECTED. INCREASING COMPETITION ON WORLD MARKET FOR LIMITED OIL OFFERED MAY LEAD TO STRONG PRICE INCREASES RESULTING IN PARTICULAR BURDEN ON RESOURCE-POOR DEVELOPING COUNTRIES.

3. REPORT DEVELOPS FOUR CATEGORIES OF ENERGY TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT AREAS FOR COOPERATIVE ACTIVITIES AND IDENTIFIES PRIORITIES OF EACH USING OIL SAVING POTENTIAL AS PRIME INDEX. PRELIMINARY AND INCOMPLETE ANALYSES INDICATE HIGHEST VALUE FOR OIL SAVING BY 1985 FROM IMPLEMENTATION OF ENHANCED OIL RECOVERY AND CONSERVATION. YEAR 2000 ANALYSES GIVE HIGH PRIORITY TO COAL CONVERSION AND COMBUSTION, SHALE OIL RECOVERY, GEOTHERMAL, SOLAR HEATING AND CONSERVATION TECHNOLOGIES. REPORT ENDS ON SOMBER NOTE THAT CURRENT NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL R&D PROGRAMS DO NOT APPEAR TO BE SUFFICIENT TO ALLEVIATE FUTURE OIL IMPORT CRISIS NOTED EARLIER. DISCUSSION OF REPORT FAVORABLE BUT DID NOT TREAT SUBSTANCE OF PROPOSED STRATEGY AND ITS IMPLEMENTATION. SOME DELEGATIONS CONCERNED THAT STATISTICAL DATA CONTAINED IN DETAILED VERSION OF REPORT PROVIDING THE QUANTITATIVE ANALYSIS SUBMITTED BY LABORATORY GROUPS

AS ASSOCIATED DOCUMENT DID NOT REFLECT 'OFFICIAL' COUNTRY SUBMISSIONS. COMMITTEE APPROVED JOINT PUBLICATION BY THE LABORATORIES OF ASSOCIATED DOCUMENT AND AGREED TO PUBLICATION OF STRATEGY REPORT AS STEERING COMMITTEE DOCUMENT. HOWEVER, CHAIRMAN ASKED THAT ADDITIONAL COMMENTS BE SUBMITTED BY 18 MARCH.

4. ORTNER (AUSTRIA) REVIEWED PROGRESS OF SMALL SOLAR POWER SYSTEM GROUP. AFTER SLOW START WORKING GROUP DECIDED AT MEETING HELD WEEK OF FEBRUARY 17 TO MOVE AHEAD RAPIDLY ON DESIGN OF BOTH A CENTRAL TOWER AND DISTRIBUTIVE SYSTEM FOR SOLAR-THERMAL POWER GENERATION. OUTPUT WILL BE IN 500 KW RANGE SINCE 1 MW-5 MW PROJECTS ALREADY DECIDED ON IN U.S. LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
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AND EEC AND SYSTEMS OF LESS THAN 100 KW ALREADY IN ADVANCED STAGE OF DEVELOPMENT IN SEVERAL COUNTRIES. IEA PROJECT TO BE LOCATED IN ALMEIRA, SPAIN WITH US/FRG AND SPAIN FORMING INITIAL NUCLEUS OF EFFORT. FRG TO BE OPERATING AGENCY THROUGH DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION BID EVALUATION PHASE. EXPERTS WILL MEET IN SPAIN APRIL 18-MAY 14 TO WORK OUT

SPECIFICATIONS FOR CENTRAL TOWER PROJECT WITH TENDERS FOR CONSTRUCTION OFFERED TO INDUSTRY THAT SPRING. CONSTRUCTION IS EXPECTED TO TAKE TWO YEARS. THE ITALIAN DELEGATE NOTED SOME OVERLAP WITH THE EEC PROJECT WAS POSSIBLE AND CAUTIONED THAT IF SODIUM OR EUTECTIC SALTS USED AS WORKING FLUID (AS U.S. PREFERS) SYSTEM MIGHT BE TOO ADVANCED FOR LDC APPLICATIONS. MEETING TO AGREE ON OVERALL MANAGEMENT APPROACH TO PLAN FOR BOTH PROJECTS SCHEDULED FOR WASHINGTON MARCH 23-25.

5. RANDL (FRG) REPORTED ON RADIOACTIVE WASTE MANAGEMENT STUDY ACTIVITIES UNDERTAKEN BY NEA WASTE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE (THIS COMMITTEE ESTABLISHED IN RESPONSE TO IEA ASSIGNMENT OF LEAD THIS TOPIC TO NEA). DESCRIBED PROJECTS RELATED TO SEABED DISPOSAL, TREATMENT OF HIGH-LEVEL WASTES AND GEOLOGIC DISPOSAL. SCHMIDT-KUESTER NOTED THAT STUDY ACTIVITIES DID NOT APPEAR TO FOLLOW PATTERN AND NEEDED TO BE BROUGHT TOGETHER IN A COHERENT STRATEGY IN ORDER TO INITIATE CONCRETE PROJECTS. SWISS DELEGATE AND SCHMIDT-KUESTER POINTED OUT CRITICAL ROLE OF WASTE MANAGEMENT IN GROWTH OF NUCLEAR POWER. VANDERRYN (U.S.) NOTED THAT PROGRAM MANAGERS LIMITED IN PURSUING INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION IN THIS TOPIC WITHOUT HIGH LEVEL POLITICAL COMMITMENT AND AGREED COHERENT STRATEGY AND CLEAR INTERNATIONAL APPROACH REQUIRED. SUGGESTED THIS MIGHT FORM APPROPRIATE TOPIC FOR MINISTERIAL CONFERENCE. ALSO, CORRECTED IMPLICATION IN NEA REPORT THAT U.S. INDECISION IN NUCLEAR POLICY AREA RESPONSIBLE FOR SLOW PROGRESS JOINT RESEARCH. POINTED OUT THAT LAST OCTOBER'S U.S. NUCLEAR POLICY STATEMENT

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RESULTED IN INTENSIFIED R&D THIS TOPIC.

6. SECRETARIAT QUICKLY REVIEWED OTHER PROGRAMS  
AND PROJECTS NOTING THAT:

- NEW COAL CONVERSION PROJECTS, AS WELL AS CONVERSION  
SOME EXISTING EFFORTS TO IEA NOW UNDER STUDY.

- SOLAR HEATING AND COOLING IMPLEMENTING AGREEMENT SIGNED

- SHORT ROTATION FORESTRY PROJECT SPONSORED BY SWEDEN  
LIKELY TO BE TAKEN UP BY BIOCONVERSION WORKING GROUP.

- PROSPECTS FOR EARLY AGREEMENT ON PROJECT RELATED TO  
CONSERVATION IN CEMENT MANUFACTURE.

U.S. DELEGATE NOTED THAT REDUCTION IN U.S. FUSION R&D  
BUDGET WOULD PROBABLY CAUSE CANCELLATION OF INTENSE  
NEUTRON SOURCE (INS) PROJECT AT LOS ALAMOS IN WHICH FOREIGN  
PARTICIPATION IS ALREADY UNDERWAY UNDER IEA IMPLEMENTING  
AGREEMENT.

7. DISCUSSION OF SECRETARIAT PAPER ON DISSEMINATION OF  
INFORMATION ON IEA COOPERATIVE R, D & D PROGRAMS AND  
PROJECTS RELATIVELY INSUBSTANTIAL; THE CANADIAN DELEGATE  
NOTED THAT HIS GOVERNMENT OBJECTED TO THE SECRETARIAT  
OBTAINING WORKING PARTY REPORTS CONTAINING PROPRIETARY  
INFORMATION, SINCE IT WAS NOT A CONTRACTING PARTY.  
SCHMIDT-KUESTER RESPONDED STRONGLY THAT SECRETARIAT CANNOT  
BE DENIED SUCH REPORTS. PAPER APPROVED BY COMMITTEE WITH  
SUGGESTION IT BE INCORPORATED BY REFERENCE IN FUTURE  
IMPLEMENTING AGREEMENTS.

8. IN DISCUSSION OF SECRETARIAT PAPER ON PREPARATION OF  
SPRING 1977 R&D MEETING OF GOVERNING BOARD DELEGATIONS  
PREOCCUPIED WITH PROPOSED SCHEDULE FOR REVIEWS OF NATIONAL  
ENERGY R&D PROGRAMS WHICH ARE SCHEDULED FOR OCTOBER,  
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NOVEMBER, DECEMBER 1977. NUMBER OF DELEGATIONS FELT SUCH  
REVIEWS TO BE PREMATURE. LEGASSIE (U.S.) SUGGESTED  
REVIEWS PROCEED PROMPTLY. GREEK DELEGATE ALONE IN SPEAK-  
ING OUT IN FAVOR. CANADIAN DELEGATE ARGUED AGAINST  
COUNTRY-SPECIFIC REVIEWS AND SAID THEY SHOULD FORM PART OF  
BROADER SLT REVIEW PROCESS. SCHMIDT-KUESTER ADVISED  
COUNTRIES THAT HAD OBJECTIONS IN PRINCIPLE TO CONSULT WITH  
SECRETARIAT AND THEIR REPRESENTATIVE IN GOVERNING BOARD.

ALSO ASKED THAT COMMENTS ON PAPER BE RECEIVED BY MARCH 18.

9. SECRETARIAT PAPER ON GUIDELINES FOR COOPERATION WITH  
LDCS NOT DISCUSSED.

10. AT SUBSEQUENT INFORMAL DISCUSSIONS BETWEEN SCHMIDT-  
KUESTER, U.S. REPS AND SECRETARIAT, CONCERN EXPRESSED AT  
LACK OF SUBSTANTIVE DISCUSSION OF STRATEGY PAPER AND PAPER  
PREPARING FOR GOVERNING BOARD MEETING. SCHMIDT-KUESTER  
CIRCULATING NOTE TO CRD MEMBERS CALLING ATTENTION TO AREAS  
IN STRATEGY PAPER REQUIRING CONSIDERATION AND TENTATIVELY  
DESIGNATING MARCH 29 FOR ANOTHER MEETING DEPENDING ON  
NATURE OF COMMENTS RECEIVED.

IN VIEW OF MAY ECONOMIC SUMMIT MEETING AND JUNE  
MINISTERIAL, NO FINAL DECISION REACHED ON APRIL 28 MEETING  
OF NATIONAL R&D CHIEFS AND APRIL 29 GOVERNING BOARD DIS-  
CUSSION OF R&D.  
VANCE

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## Message Attributes

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**Executive Order:** 11652 NA  
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**Subject:** MEETING OF IEA COMMITTEE ON ENERGY R&D, 24 FEBRUARY 1977  
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